

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Oliver Goldman	Art Unit :	2137
Serial No. :	10/656,593	Examiner :	Techane Gergiso
Filed :	September 4, 2003	Confirmation No.:	7963
		Notice of Allowance Date:	December 28, 2007
Title :	SELF-SIGNING ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS		

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Attention is called to the fact that the Examiner's reasons for allowance paraphrase the language of claim 1 and actually misstate the claim language with respect to claims 18 and 20. Applicant does not concede that these statements by the Examiner are correct or appropriate, and these statements should not be used to read limitations into the claims that are not actually present in the claim language. Moreover, attention is called to a typographical error in that the Examiner's reference to claim 42 should be to claim 43.

Applicant recognizes that in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 1302.14, the Examiner's reasons for allowance need not set forth all of the details as to why the claims are allowed. Applicant does not concede that the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance are the only reasons for which the claims are allowable. The claims may be allowable for other reasons as well. In particular, Applicant does not concede that all of the limitations identified by the Examiner are necessary to distinguish the prior art of record or to satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. In addition, the Examiner does not assert, and Applicant would not concede, that the Examiner's reasons have any bearing on the patentability of claims in any other applications directed to the disclosed subject matter.

In addition, each dependent claim stands on its own and is allowable on its own merits. In particular, each dependent claim may be allowable on the basis of a combination of some of the features recited in the dependent claim and its base claim(s), which combination of features may not include all of the limitations identified in the Examiner's reasons for allowance.

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Attorney's Docket No.: 07844-596001 / P549

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 27, 2008

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